

This record is a partial extract of the original cable. The full text of the original cable is not available.

UNCLAS DJIBOUTI 001222

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF; PARIS/LONDON FOR AFRICA WATCHER; PARIS FOR
OECD

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [ECON](#) [OTRA](#) [DJ](#) [XY](#) [ZF](#) [ZU](#) [XW](#) [XA](#)

SUBJECT: AFRICA PARTNERSHIP FORUM: INVITATION TO IGAD
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

REF: STATE 199822

1. (U) Ambassador met September 20 with Dr. Attalla Hamad Bashir, Executive Secretary of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), to present AF Assistant Secretary Newman's invitation to him to attend the October

SIPDIS

3-5 meeting in Washington of the Africa Partnership Forum. Dr. Bashir had just returned from Nairobi, where he had participated in proceedings for election of Speaker of the Somali Transitional Federal Assembly.

2. (U) Bashir expressed interest in attending the Partnership Forum, but said there was no money in the IGAD budget to cover the cost of a hotel and sustenance in Washington. Under guidance provided in reftel, such cost would be the responsibility of the delegate. While the guidance provided did not clarify if air travel costs to Washington were covered, Attalla said he would speak with the NEPAD Implementation Committee Co-chair to determine if both these costs might be covered by the Committee. We will advise Department as soon as we have Bashir's decision.

3. (U) Bashir hopes to travel this week to the United Nations in New York to brief Secretary General Annan on progress of the Somali peace conference.
RAGSDALE